



Attorney Docket No. P70583US0

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of ZUBOV et al.

Application No. 10/534,031

Group Art Unit : 1797

Filed: May 6, 2005

Examiner: Ernest Therkorn

For: SORBENT MATERIAL HAVING A COVALENTLY ATTACHED PERFLUORINATED SURFACE WITH FUNCTIONAL GROUPS

**RESPONSE
TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper responds to the Office Action (restriction) mailed October 8, 2008.

Pursuant to the restriction requirement, under 35 USC 121, election is made, hereby, to prosecute invention Group I, claims 1-11, with traverse.

Pursuant to the requirement for election of species, species silicon oxide is elected. Claims 1, 2, and 4-23 read on the elected species.

Traverse is maintained because the record does not support the finding of lack of unity of invention under PCT Rule 13.1. MPEP 1893.03(d). Applicants consider Group I and Group II belong to one inventive concept, whether or not patentably distinct from one another. Group I pertains to a sorbent material having a solid support modified with a fluorinated polymer coating, and Group II pertains to a method of obtaining such a sorbent material.

An object of the presently claimed invention is to provide a sorbent material having an advanced surface, for biotechnological applications in aqueous media, an improved access area of

the separation surface in a separation medium, and improved stability of the coating for the construction of material suitable for chromatographical applications (page 3, lines 17-23, of the specification). The object is attained by the sorbent material having the modified polymer coating according to the subject matter of present claims 1-11. It is kindly submitted that the sorbent material according to claims 1-11 and the method of obtaining such a sorbent material according to present claims 12-15 comprise said inventive feature. Therefore, product claims 1-11 as well as method claims 12-15 represent two embodiments so linked as to form a single general inventive concept, which is unitary, according to PCT.

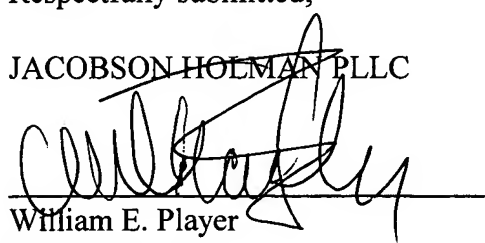
Therefore, invention Group I and invention Group II fulfill the requirements for unity of invention under Rule 13.1 PCT. Note is taken that the international application has not been objected to for lack of unity (International Preliminary Examination Report mailed October 29, 2004).

Favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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